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Docket No.: APA-0217

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuya Maekawa et al.

Application No.: NEW APPLICATION

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: October 1, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD FOR SEVERING BRITTLE

MATERIAL SUBSTRATE AND SEVERING

APPARATUS USING THE METHOD

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.